

AES Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

August 1998

Introducing the new AES Newsletter

Sharing information that's important to you.

This newsletter will be faxed to you by the Bureau of Census, Foreign Trade Division, Export Automation Representatives Support team quarterly and whenever news, technical information, and updates need to be delivered.

This newsletter will deliver news, technical information, and updates every quarter.

Our first issue will cover the results of the IBN, correct notation of SED exemptions, and provide important phone numbers and web access points. Subsequent newsletter topics will include updates to AES, foreign military sales, mail shipments, changes and updates to the regulations, and new and updated AES error messages.



EXPORT AUTOMATION REPRESENTATIVE SUPPORT TEAM
BUREAU OF CENSUS, FOREIGN TRADE DIVISION
WASHINGTON, DC 20233
TEL: (301) 457-2207, FAX: (301) 457-1159

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Introduction to the Newsletter
- 1 Results of the IBN
- 2 Four Track Export Reporting Options
- 3 The AERP Page
- 4 Important Phone Numbers, AES Statistics, Reminders

Results of the IBN

Expanded electronic SED reporting – more options

Background

AES was developed and implemented by Customs and Census to electronically capture data that is currently being submitted on SEDs and through AERP. As originally proposed, AES required all SED data be submitted pre-departure.

The export community, while supporting the concept of electronic SED filing, felt that the original AES program required modification for two primary reasons, first, a significant portion of the export community believes that pre-departure filing of SED data does not conform to current business processes because in many cases, exporters do not have complete information prior to departure. Second, AES eliminated a privilege many exporters had relied on for nearly 30 years, AERP, which allowed post departure filing of SED data for authorized companies.

In response to the export community's request to address these issues, Customs and Census developed AES-PASS (Post-Departure Authorized Special Status). AES-PASS allowed authorized exporters to provide a brief IOU, followed by a post-departure submission of the full SED data. While this proposal significantly improved AES, the export community remained concerned that the two issues described above had not been completely addressed and that two separate transmissions would be required for each transaction.

After a period of discussion, Customs, Census, and the trade agreed to an Interest Based Negotiation (IBN) to resolve the remaining differences. Under the direction of the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Enforcement) James Johnson, a subcommittee of the Customs Oversight Activities Committee (COAC), supplemented with other experienced members of the trade community, was selected to represent the export community. Several experienced staff from both Customs and Census represented the Government. A series of three IBN sessions, each lasting three days, was held in April, May, and June 1998. The results are outlined on page two:

Results of the IBN (continued)

Enhanced electronic SED reporting – the four options

Track 1: Paper SED Pre-Departure

Paper SED given to carrier for submission to Customs prior to exportation.

Required for State Department licensed shipments.

Track 2: AES with Full Pre-Departure Information

a) All shipments where the full SED information is available prior to exportation.

b) All shipments as noted below:

- 1) Used Vehicles.
- 2) Essential and precursor chemicals for the manufacture of narcotics.
- 3) Any other shipment defined as sensitive by law or Executive Order.
- 4) Overland shipments by exporters not on Track 4.

Track 3: AES with Partial Pre-Departure Information

a) Available for shipments for which full SED data is not available prior to exportation.

b) Applies to vessel and air shipments only.

c) No prior approval is needed to use Track 3.

d) Available for shipments by Track 4 exporters for which pre-departure information is required for licenses or other purposes.

e) Full SED transmitted as soon as known, but no later than five (5) working days from the date of exportation.

Track 4: AES with No Pre-Departure Information

a) Shipments can be reported with no pre-departure information.

b) Exporters must be pre-approved for Track 4.

1) The approving agencies are: the Customs Service, the Census Bureau, Bureau of Export Administration, the Office of Foreign Assets Control, and Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

2) Freight forwarders can apply for Track 4 privileges on behalf of an exporter when they have a signed power-of-attorney.

3) Current AES-PASS participants will be grandfathered into Track 4 for all eligible shipments.

4) Current AERP participants, both exporters and freight forwarders on behalf of their clients will be given the first opportunity to apply for Track 4.

c) Full SED information transmitted when known but no later than ten (10) working days from the date of exportation.

Track 3 Pre-Departure Data Elements

Exporter ID (EIN, DUNS or SSN)
Forwarder ID (EIN, DUNS or SSN)
Ultimate Consignee Name
Carrier ID (SCAC or IATA)
Method of Transportation Code
Unique Shipment Reference Number
Transportation Reference Number—booking number, awb, etc.
Commodity Description or Schedule B or HTS
Intended U.S. Port of Export
Estimated Date of Export
Country of Ultimate Destination
HAZMAT Indicator
License Code & Number

When will these options be available?

Track 1, paper SED filing, and Track 2, full pre-departure filing are in place now. AES-PASS is available now for post-departure filing. AES-PASS companies will have one year to transition from AES-PASS to Track 3 and/or 4 but no date has been set for the implementation of Tracks 3 and 4.

The AERP Page

The End of an Era

Does the date December 31, 1999 keep nagging at your inner electronic exports being?

Does December 31, 1999 mean something to you? Well, it should be a date etched in your hard drive, because by now, you have been hit with the unalterable fact that AERP will end with the millennium.

Remember, your November 1999 report is due December 10, 1999, AND your December 1999 report is due December 31, 1999. Not January 10, 2000.

AERP, in existence since 1969, answered the needs of the Bureau of the Census, and was adequate for our data collection. With the implementation of AES, the needs of many agencies: The U.S. Customs Service, Bureau of Export Administration, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, AND the Bureau of the Census will be satisfied.

With AERP, companies were afforded the privilege of post departure filing. That will also be possible with AES, with certain limitations. AES-PASS, and the new Track Four are the post departure features of AES, as long as the shipment does not have a license requirement. Please see pages 2 and 3 for more information.

Are you getting two AES newsletters?

We fax two versions of this newsletter—one for AERP companies and one for all AES companies. If you're getting both, please call Leslie Albertson on (301) 457-3541 and she'll eliminate the duplication. Thanks!

Correct Data Reporting a Must

During the next 6 months, your AERP team will be aggressively seeking YOUR help in eliminating errors. It has long been our goal to have zero errors, and many of you achieve that. There are still certain errors that repeatedly appear, and it is on these that our attention will focus.

Each month your export report is processed and run through an editing system which generates an error report for such areas as Schedule B, foreign port, air carrier code, country, quantity, unit of quantity, and value. These errors are called "rejects", and will be considered "fatal" in the AES environment.

The error reports will help you to identify problems which require more attention, in order for you to be successful with AES. There are several team members available for help with correcting your export reporting.

Is your AERP software vendor AES ready?

Has your AERP software vendor contacted you about converting your programs or systems to AES? If they haven't been in contact with you, have you been in touch with them?

We estimate at least a six to nine month transition period to move most companies from AERP to AES. With this in mind, it is imperative to begin the transition as soon as possible, to avoid the trouble, confusion, and extra costs associated with filing paper SEDs.

You already know this, but it bears repeating: to reach the AERP team, call:

(301) 457-2220

SED Exemption Notations:

There are two ways to note an AES SED exemption on an air waybill, ocean manifest or other commercial document. You may use the ITN (internal transaction number) that you receive as confirmation and acceptance of your transaction. Or you may use the XTN (external transaction number), which is a combination of the filer's EIN and the shipment reference number you've assigned. Please review your procedures and make sure you are correctly noting the SED exemptions.

Reminder:

We are getting ready for a database conversion and are planning a massive clean-up of the current participants database.

Please alert your Census Representative when there are any changes to your company's profile, (such as Contact Name, Phone Numbers, Fax Numbers, Address, EIN Numbers, etc.)

We need this information to keep you updated with AES.

AES Statistics: As of August 1, 1998

Filers (Freight forwarders, exporters, and service centers) 101

Participating exporters: over 7,000

Letters of Intent to participate: more than 400

Total number of export lines reported in AES: 55,855

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES

U.S. CUSTOMS:

PAT MORRIS (703) 921-7470 PAT.MORRIS@MORRIR01.CUSTOMS.SPRINT.COM

CENSUS CLIENT REPRESENTATIVES:

WENDY PEEBLES	(301) 457-3540	WENDY.D.PEEBLES@CCMAIL.CENSUS.GOV
GERRY HORNER	(301) 457-3539	GERARD.J.HORNER@CCMAIL.CENSUS.GOV
PAUL NEWMAN	(301) 457-3540	PAUL.F.NEWMAN@CCMAIL.CENSUS.GOV
ANITA BROWN	(301) 457-2207	ANITA.W.BROWN@CCMAIL.CENSUS.GOV
MIKE SCHREFFLER	(301) 457-3542	MICHAEL.K.SCHREFFLER@CCMAIL.CENSUS.GOV
KRISTAL BYRD	(301) 457-3541	KRISTAL.A.BYRD@CCMAIL.CENSUS.GOV
DOROTHY BROWN	(301) 457-2209	DOROTHY.L.BROWN@CCMAIL.CENSUS.GOV
LESLIE ALBERTSON	(301) 457-3541	LESLIE.S.ALBERTSON@CCMAIL.CENSUS.GOV

REGULATIONS BRANCH (SED QUESTIONS): (301) 457-2238

COMMODITY ANALYSIS BRANCH (COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION QUESTIONS):

DURABLE GOODS: (301) 457-3259

NON-DURABLE GOODS: (301) 457-3484

BUREAU OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION (LICENSING QUESTIONS) (202) 482-4811

IMPORTANT WEB SITES:

CENSUS BUREAU, FOREIGN TRADE DIVISION [HTTP://WWW.CENSUS.GOV/FOREIGN-TRADE/WWW](http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www)

U.S. CUSTOMS: [HTTP://WWW.USTREAS.CUSTOMS.GOV/AES](http://www.ustreas.customs.gov/aes)

BUREAU OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION: [HTTP://WWW.BXA.DOC.GOV](http://www.bxa.doc.gov)